

Norman Love sets sail on the Love Boat

I was recently in Fort Lauderdale aboard the Regal Princess cruise ship for its naming ceremony and guess who I ran into? Local chocolatier Norman Love.

Love has just signed a deal with Princess Cruise Lines to establish “Chocolate Journeys” on all 18 Princess cruise ships around the world. Love is designing exclusive chocolate desserts available in each of the dining rooms, chocolate love pops (a finger-friendly chocolate on a stick for cocktail receptions) and a special pairing of wine and Norman Love chocolates in the Vines Wine Bar.

I caught up with Love after his appearance at the inaugural chocolate and wine tasting in the wine bar located just off



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the beautiful multi-story atrium in the center of the Regal Princess, a gathering spot for food, entertainment and shopping on the elegant new ship.

“Princess Cruises sought me out,” explains Love. “They were looking for a master chocolatier to create an ultra premium experience for their cruise ship guests.”

Interestingly enough, one of Love’s first jobs as

a pastry chef was on a cruise ship. It started a lifelong love of the cruise industry and so when Princess Cruises approached him, Love was delighted.

Besides the desserts and chocolates, Princess asked Love to stretch a bit and create some new products just for them. Love’s menu of unique chocolate cocktails includes a chocolate chili margarita, a chocolate salted caramel rum shake, and a chocolate bacon bourbon special.

There are also chocolate cooking demonstrations onboard the Princess ships with recipes designed by Love. A charming Norman Love chocolate shop, also located on that spectacular atrium, features all of Love’s beautiful choco-



SHARON KENNY/SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-PRESS

Chocolatier Norman Love outside his chocolate shop aboard the Regal Princess.

INFORMATION

Learn more about Princess Cruise Lines at princess.com

lates and will provide worldwide exposure to the Norman Love brand as the Princess ships sail the globe.

The honorary godparents of the Regal Princess are the original

cast members of “The Love Boat” TV series and they were all on the ship for the naming and Love was able to meet them in person. The Regal Princess will be sailing from the Fort Lauderdale cruise terminal to the Caribbean all winter.

With the construction along Interstate 595 finally completed, getting to and from the cruise terminal is now a breeze. After disembarking the ship and picking up my car in the car park right next door, I was home in just 90 minutes.

What a great escape with no airports, no delays, no hassle.

Sharon Kenny is the author of “Where Should We Eat? A Foodlover’s Recommended Places to Eat and Drink in the Naples Area.” Visit whereshouldweeatNaples.com